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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/784,392	02/23/2004	Ryan P. Boucher	1759.15103-CIP 2 DIV	8431
26308 7590 04/28/2008 RYAN KROMHOLZ & MANION, S.C. POST OFFICE BOX 26618 MILWAUKEE, WI 53226				
EXAMINER				
YANG, ANDREW				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3733				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
04/28/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/784,392

Applicant(s)

BOUCHER ET AL.

Examiner

ANDREW YANG

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Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 July 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to Applicants' amendment filed on July 20, 2007.

Priority

The later-filed application must be an application for a patent for an invention which is also disclosed in the prior application (the parent or original nonprovisional application or provisional application). The disclosure of the invention in the parent application and in the later-filed application must be sufficient to comply with the requirements of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112. See *Transco Products, Inc. v. Performance Contracting, Inc.*, 38 F.3d 551, 32 USPQ2d 1077 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

The disclosure of the prior-filed application, Application No. 09/088459 and 09/420529, fail to provide adequate support or enablement in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112 for one or more claims of this application. Boucher et al. claim a method of wrapping an expandable structure prior to insertion into bone. Applications 09/088459 and 09/420529 do not teach a structure in the disclosure capable of anticipating the claimed method.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Scholten et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4969888) in view of Schiff (U.S. Patent No. 4467790).

Scholten et al. discloses a device for fixation of osteoporotic bone comprising a structure consisting of a balloon 76 and neck 77 with opposite ends spaced along an axis (Figure 22 and 23). The balloon 76 is inserted into the vertebral body via cannula 30 created by soft tissue expander 70 and inflated. As a result the balloon 76 compacts the bone marrow and moves the cortical bone (Figure 28) leaving a void or cavity to be treated (Column 7, Lines 17-21). The balloon 76 is then deflated and removed, at which time synthetic bone or methyl methacrylate cement is injected into the cavity. Scholten et al. fails to disclose wrapping the structure prior to insertion, unwrapping it after being inserted, then wrapping it once again before the structure is removed from the bone, wherein wrapping the structure includes causing differential rotation of one end of the structure about the axis relative to the other end. Schiff teaches a balloon 12 joined to a catheter at a proximal end, which is wrapped around a stylet 30 and then inserted percutaneously through sheath 40. Once in the operative position the balloon is untwisted and thus completing the insertion operation (Column 6, Lines 52-55). The balloon can then be removed upon completion of the procedure by deflating the balloon 12 and re-wrapping it and pulling it back through sheath 40. The balloon is twisted by rotating knob 28 in a clockwise direction with the balloon 12 held in place at location 50, while the tip 14 is gently rotated to assist with the wind (Column 5, Lines 60-64). The twisting significantly reduces the outer diameter of the balloon, making it extremely advantageous for percutaneous insertion through a small diameter sheath (Column 2,

Lines 27-31). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to construct the balloon of Scholten et al. capable of being wrapped prior to insertion and removal in view of Schiff so that it would have the advantage of being able to fit through a sheath with a small diameter.

Response to Arguments

In response to Applicants' argument regarding claim 9, they have been addressed in the rejection above. Furthermore, figure 28 of Scholten et al. shows cortical bone being moved.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANDREW YANG whose telephone number is (571)272-3472. The examiner can normally be reached on IFP.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eduardo Robert can be reached on 571-272-4719. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Andrew Yang/

Examiner, Art Unit 3733

4/16/2008

/Eduardo C. Robert/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3733